CLAIMS

1. A computer-implemented method for valuing one or more elements of value of a business enterprise, comprising:

obtaining data related to the value of the business enterprise,

calculating, for each one of the elements of value, a composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise;

calculating the cash flow of the business enterprise;

determining, for each one of the elements of value, a percentage of the cash flow attributable to the element of value; and

calculating a value for each one of the elements of value of the business enterprise based on the forecast cash flow value of the business enterprise and the percentages of the cash flow attributable to the element of value.

2. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein the composite variable for each one of the elements of value, the cash flow value of the business enterprise and the percentages of the cash flow attributable to each one of the elements of value are calculated for a range of time including a specified valuation date.

3. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 further comprising optionally sub-dividing the cash flow in to revenue, expense and capital components and sub-components to yield a more detailed analysis.

4. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein calculating the composite variable comprises combining transaction ratios and transaction data using a pre-specified formula.

5. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein determining the percentages of the cash flow attributable to an element of value comprises using output from a neural network to determine the percentage of the cash flow attributable to the element of value.

6. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data and one or more transaction ratios to calculate the composite variable.

7. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data and one or more transaction trends to calculate the composite variable.

8. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using one or more transaction ratios and transaction trends to calculate the composite variable.

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9. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data to calculate the composite variable.

10. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using one or more transaction trends to calculate the composite variable.

11. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using one or more transaction ratios to calculate the composite variable.

12. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data, transaction trends and transaction ratios to calculate the composite variable.

13. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein the cash flow forecast is obtained from a multivalent combination of forecasts.

14. The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein the cash flow forecast is the best fit forecast obtained from a tournament of forecast methods.

15. A computer readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed cause a processor to perform a method for valuing one or more elements of value of a business enterprise, comprising:

obtaining data related to a value and cash flow of the business enterprise, calculating, for each one of the elements of value, a composite variable characterizing a performance of the element of value of the business enterprise;

calculating the cash flow of the business enterprise;

determining, for each one of the elements of value, a percentage of the cash flow attributable to the element of value; and

calculating a value for each one of the elements of value of the business enterprise based on the forecast cash flow value of the business enterprise and the percentages of the cash flow attributable to the element of value.

16. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein the composite variable for each one of the elements of value, the cash flow value of the business enterprise and the percentages of the cash flow attributable to each one of the elements of value are calculated for a range of time including a specified valuation date.

17. The computer-readable medium of claim 15 further comprising optionally sub-dividing the cash flow in to revenue, expense and capital components and sub-components to yield a more detailed analysis.

18. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein calculating the composite variable comprises combining transaction ratios and transaction data using a pre-specified formula..

19. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein determining the percentages of the cash flow attributable to an element of value comprises using output from a neural network to determine the percentage of the cash flow attributable to the element of value.

20. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data and one or more transaction ratios to calculate the composite variable.

21. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data and one or more transaction trends to calculate the composite variable.

22. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using one or more transaction ratios and transaction trends to calculate the composite variable.

23. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data to calculate the composite variable.

24. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using one or more transaction trends to calculate the composite variable.

25. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using one or more transaction ratios to calculate the composite variable.

26. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data, transaction trends and transaction ratios to calculate the composite variable.

27. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein the cash flow forecast is obtained from a multivalent combination of forecasts.

28. The computer readable medium of claim 15 wherein the cash flow forecast is the best fit forecast from a tournament of forecast methods.

29. A computer system, comprising:

a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;

a storage device coupled to the processor and having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed cause the processor to,

obtain data related to a value of a business enterprise,

calculate, for each one of the elements of value, a composite variable

characterizing a performance of the element of value of the business enterprise;

calculate the cash flow of the business enterprise;

determine, for each one of the elements of value, a percentage of the cash flow

attributable to the element of value; and

calculate a value for each one of the elements of value of the business

enterprise based on the forecast cash flow value of the business enterprise and

the percentages of the cash flow attributable to the element of value.

30. The computer system of claim 29 wherein the composite variable for each one of

the elements of value, the cash flow value of the business enterprise and the percentages

of the enteprise cash flow attributable to each one of the elements of value are calculated

for a range of time including a specified valuation date.

31. The computer system of claim 29 further comprising optionally sub-dividing the

cash flow in to revenue, expense and capital components and sub-components to yield a

more detailed analysis.

32. . The computer system of claim 29 wherein calculating the composite variable

comprises combining transaction ratios and transaction data using a pre-specified

formula.

33. The computer system of claim 29 wherein determining the percentages of the cash

flow attributable to an element of value comprises using output from a neural network to

determine the percentage cash flow attributable to the element of value.

34. The computer system of claim 29 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data and one or more transaction ratios to calculate the composite variable.

35. The computer system of claim 29 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data and one or more transaction trends to calculate the composite variable.

36. The computer system of claim 29 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using one or more transaction ratios and transaction trends to calculate the composite variable.

37. The computer system of claim 29 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data to calculate the composite variable.

38. The computer system of claim 29 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using one or more transaction trends to calculate the composite variable.

39. The computer system of claim 29 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using one or more transaction ratios to calculate the composite variable.

40. The computer system of claim 29 wherein calculating the composite variable characterizing the performance of the element of value of the business enterprise comprises using transaction data, transaction ratios and transaction trends to calculate the composite variable.

41. The computer system of claim 29 wherein the cash flow forecast is obtained from a multivalent combination of forecasts

42. The computer system of claim 29 wherein the cash flow forecast is the best fit forecast obtained from a tournament of forecast methods.